



SYMYX/8 DIV CON

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Yumin Liu  
Application No. : 10/719,441 Confirmation No. : 2966  
Filed : November 20, 2003  
For : Ni CATALYSTS AND METHODS FOR ALKANE  
DEHYDROGENATION  
Group Art Unit : 1764  
Examiner : Tam M. Nguyen

New York, New York 10020  
January 18, 2005

Hon. Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated October 18, 2004 in the above-identified application. Applicant is filing this reply before the expiration of the shortened statutory period for reply -- January 18, 2005 -- and thus, no extension fee is required.

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION begin on page 2 of this paper.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS begin on page 3 of this paper.

REMARKS begin on page 11 of this paper.